

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3 – 7, 9 – 14, 16 – 20, and 22 – 26 have been rejected. Claims 2, 8, 15, and 21 have been objected to. Claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 23 and 25 have been amended. Claims 2, 8, 15, 20 and 21 have been cancelled.

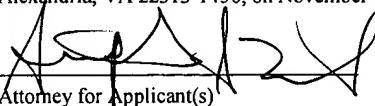
Appreciation is expressed for the indication of allowability of claims 2, 8, 15 and 21. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and is thus allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and is thus allowable. Claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 8 and is thus allowable. Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 15 and is thus allowable. Claim 19 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 21 and is thus allowable.

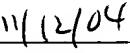
Additionally, claim 23 has been amended to include limitations similar to those indicated allowable in claim 2 and is thus believed to be allowable. Claim 24 depends from claim 23 and is allowable for at least this reason. Claim 25 has been amended to include limitations similar to those indicated allowable in claim 2 and is thus believed to be allowable. Claim 26 depends from claim 25 and is allowable for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

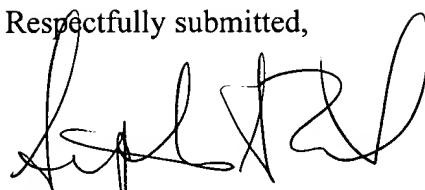
In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 12, 2004.


Attorney for Applicant(s)


Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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